Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 L-03 AID-20 CIAE-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS DEPT OF COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ETRD, GB

SUBJECT: GOG ASKING BETHLEHEM FOR EQUITY PARTICIPATION

- 1. JORGE SCHNEIDER OF BETHLEHEM STEEL SENT ME CABLE STATING PRESIDENT BONGO HAS REQUESTED BETHLEHEM TO CONSIDER RELEASING 50 PERCENT ITS SHARES IN FAVOR OF GOG. SCHEIDER ASKS ME IF I CAN TELL HIM "WHETHER OUTSIDE PARTIES MIGHT HAVE INFLUENCED GOVERNMENT IN THIS DIRECTION."
- 2. ACT DEPT: PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO SCHNEIDER. "BONGO HAS PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED SOME SIX MOTHS AGO THAT ULTIMATE GOAL OF GOG WAS TO OWN 25 PERCENT EQUITY IN ALL MAJOR COMPANIES OPERATING IN GABON. HE ADDED AT SAME TIME THAT GOG RESOURCES WOULD NOT PERMIT REACHING THIS FIGURE IN NEAR FUTURE AND THAT GABON WOULD BEGIN WITH TEN PERCENT IN MOST CASES. (GOG PAYS FOR EQUITY IT GETS IN ESTABLISHED COMPANIES, BUT REQUIRES TEN PERCENT FREE EQUITY IN ANY NEW COMPANY.) WE HAVE NO RPT NO INFO ON WHETHER ANY OUTSIDE PARTIES MIGHT HAVE PLAYED ROLE IN DECISION RE BETHLEHEM. WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SEEM LOGICAL TO EMBASSY THAT IF GOG WISHES TO ACQUIRE

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25 PERCENT IN SOMIFER, IT PURCHASE 25 PERCENT FROM ALL PARTNERS,
BUT IT OBVIOSLY UP TO BETHLEHEM TO STATE ITS OWN VIEWS IN MATTER."
DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
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Message Attributes

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Subject: GOG ASKING BETHLEHEM FOR EQUITY PARTICIPATION

TAGS: ECON, ETRD, GB, BETHLEHEM STEEL

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